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Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EUR-25 L-03 SS-20 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 /106 W
---------- 120680
R 310338Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5549
INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PFOR, CB, MY
SUBJECT: KHMER ESF

REF: STATE 209490

SUMMARY: NEITHER KHMER EMBASSY NOR MFA HAVE RECEIVED ANY INSTRUCTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS ON 1974 ESF. MFA BELIEVES TOP LEVEL OFFICIALS SYMPATHETIC TO SUPPORT OF GKR BUT RECOMMEND HIGH LEVEL GKR APPROACH TO GOM TO ASSURE FAVORABLE RESPONSE. KHMER AMBASSADOR SEEKING INSTRUCTIONS FROM GKR. UNTIL GKR MAKES OWN APPROACH TO GOM, SEE NO OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE INTERVENTION BY THIS MISSION. (END SUMMARY)

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED 1974 ESF WITH KHMER EMBASSY AND MFA. KHMER EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO DELIVER DIPLOMATIC NOTE MENTIONED REFTEL OR TO PROCEED IN ANY WAY WITH APPROACH TO GOM ON ESF. MFA SIMILARLY HAS NOT RECEIVED DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM GOM CHARGE IN PHNOM PENH.

2. MFA OFFICIAL VOLUNTEERED COMMENT THAT GOM LIKELY TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO CONTRIBUTION FOR ESF ONLY IF APPROACHED "AT HEIGHEST LEVEL". HE EMPHASIZED HE MEANT APPROACH MUST
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BE MADE BY GKR AND NOT USG. MFA REP SAID THERE WAS FAVOR-

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ABLE SENTIMENT AT TOP OF GBE FOR SUPPORTING GKR BOTH DIPLOMATICALLY AND FOR THE ESF. HOWEVER, HE VOICED OPINION THAT ONLY TOP LEVEL GKR PERSONAL APPROACH IN KUALA LUMPUR WOULD PRODUCE FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO ESF.

3. IN REVIEWING THE BIDDING ON ESF WITH KHMER AMBASSADOR, AMBASSADOR TOLD ME HE BELIEVED LACK OF INSTRUCTIONS FROM PHNOM PENH TO APPROACH GOM ON ESF PROBABLY DUE TO SMALLNESS OF GOM CONTRIBUTION AND LIKELIHOOD GKR CONSIDERS FORCEFUL DIPLOMATIC APPROACH WASTEFUL IN TERMS OF RESULTS TO BE EXPECTED. ON OTHER HAND AMBASSADOR CONCURRED THAT PRINCIPLE OF GOM CONTRIBUTION WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ACTUAL SUM INVOLVED AND HE INTENDED TO REQUEST URGENT INSTRUCTIONS FROM PHNOM PENH ON APPROACH TO GOM.

4. IF EMBASSY PHNOM PENH CONSIDERS DESIRABLE, SUGGEST GKR BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE SERIOUS APPROACH TO GOM FOR CONTRIBUTION TO 1974 ESF. KHMER AMBASSADOR INDICATED POSSIBILITY HE WOULD BE RETURNING TO PHNOM PENH WITHIN FEW DAYS. AT MOMENT SEE NO FURTHER USEFUL ROLE FOR

THIS EMBASSY UNTIL GKR PLACES DUCKS IN A ROW.
LYDMAN

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